

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK
(WACREN)**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (MoHERST)
ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA**

AND

THE GAMBIA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK (GAMREN)
FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE 2026 WACREN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
(WACREN 2026)

Following the consultative meeting between WACREN and the Government of The Gambia held on 12 November 2025, and the confirmation of The Gambia's commitment to host the event, WACREN agrees to organise its 2026 Annual Conference in The Gambia, with MoHERST and GAMREN serving as local host partners.

WACREN 2026 is composed of a series of workshops, meetings and the main conference to be held between 23 and 27 March 2026 as follows:

- I. Capacity-building workshops – 23 to 25 March 2026
- II. Technical and stakeholder meetings
- III. WACREN 2026 Main Conference – 26 and 27 March 2026
- IV. Side events and exhibitions

All activities will be hosted at the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Centre (ICC).

RESPONSIBILITIES OF WACREN

WACREN shall be responsible for:

- Activities of the WACREN Organising Committee
- Conference planning, programme development and speaker selection
- Conference announcements and communication
- Preparation and production of conference documents and materials
- Registration and management of participants
- Interpretation services where required

Funding and provision of:

- Coffee breaks and lunches
- Delegate accommodation
- Welcome Reception
- Closing Dinner
- Identification and engagement of sponsors
- Request and management of sponsorship funds
- Publication and dissemination of the conference report
- Logistical coordination and administration
- Support for the integration and visibility of GAMREN services, including possible service launch

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MoHERST / GAMREN (THE GAMBIA)

MoHERST and GAMREN shall be responsible for:

- Establishment and coordination of the Local Organising Committee (LOC)
- Provision of the conference venue at the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara ICC (main hall and breakout rooms)
- Provision of government transport for senior delegates
- Facilitation of immigration and protocol support
- Recruitment and coordination of student volunteers and ushers
- Local media publicity and coverage
- Airport reception and coordination support
- Support for technical arrangements to connect the ICC internet infrastructure to the eduroam network via GAMREN

JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES

Both parties shall collaborate on:

- Overall planning and coordination of WACREN 2026
- Stakeholder and sponsor engagement
- Protocol and ceremonial arrangements
- Promotion of research and education networking initiatives
- Visibility and communication strategy for the event

VALIDITY

This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect from the date of signature by both parties and shall remain valid until the completion of WACREN 2026 and the submission of the final conference report.

SIGNED FOR MoHERST / GAMREN (THE GAMBIA)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

SIGNED FOR WACREN

Name: Dr. Eyouleki Palanga

Title: Chief Executive Officer, WACREN

Signature: _____

Date: _____